

BANKERS MEET FOR CONFERENCE

Chicago Convention Will Formulate Views on Banking Bill.

A NATIONWIDE MOVE. No Secrecy or Resentment, but Patriotic Aid Is Object.

FORECAST OF RESULTS

Meeting Regarded as One of Most Important in American History.

CHICAGO, Aug. 21.—Leading financiers from all parts of the country began to gather in Chicago to-night for the conference and currency legislation in Congress. They express the belief that radical changes will be made in the Owen-Glass currency bill as a result of the meeting.

The advance guard of the delegates from the Mississippi Valley and the West arrived during the afternoon. Delegations from New York and other Eastern points are due to arrive early to-morrow morning. Frederick S. Farnsworth, secretary of the American Bankers Association, reached here at 4 o'clock from New York city with a corps of assistants. He went at once to the Hotel LaSalle and began making preliminary arrangements for the conference.

The conference will be opened at 10 o'clock in the morning. Secretary Farnsworth announces that the feature of the morning session will be an address by A. Barton Hepburn, chairman of the board of directors of the Chase National Bank of New York and chairman of the currency commission of the American Bankers Association, under whose auspices the conference is held.

Keynote Speech Expected. Mr. Hepburn is expected to strike the keynote of the conference in this speech. After Mr. Hepburn's address there will be an open discussion. The speakers will include the members of the currency commission. Among these will be Joseph P. Taft, vice-president of the National City Bank, New York; James B. Forgan, president of the First National Bank of Chicago; and George M. Reynolds, president of the Continental and Commercial National Bank of Chicago.

The presidents of the various State bankers associations and the delegates from the Clearing House associations then will have an opportunity to present their ideas.

Mr. Farnsworth believes that the bankers will be able to finish their work by Saturday night. A night session will probably be held to settle on a policy and a programme rapidly.

A committee will be appointed to-morrow afternoon to draft resolutions opposing the objectionable features of the present bill and recommending amendments which the bankers believe will improve the measure.

Many features of the bill are all right, Mr. Farnsworth said to-night, but relatively few bankers of the country favor the bill as a whole in its present form. There are four fundamental features of the bill which are objectionable. These are the Government control of the banks through the Federal reserve board, the note issue by the Government, the reserve fund, and the funding of 2 per cent. bonds. There is no out and dried program for the conference.

"Talk which has been going around that this conference of the bankers is a national bankers exclusively is not true. This conference will represent all phases of banking. We will have here representatives of State and savings banks and trust companies."

Situation Is Propitious. The situation at Washington seems to be singularly propitious for the bankers' conference. This conference has been called because to date the bankers of the United States have not been admitted to a share in the process of framing a new banking law. Except for the voice of political authority no voice of informed authority has been heard in Washington dealing with this subject since the inauguration of the present Administration.

Although the conference was initiated by the Currency Commission of the American Bankers Association, it is almost a spontaneous convention. The presence of these men in Chicago is a response from Clearing House associations and State banking organizations in all sections of the United States. The bankers have not been able to say with one voice what they thought of the banking bill and the expressions of individual opinion have not been regarded in Washington as carrying any weight.

This conference should have a great deal of weight. It is a representative of the entire country, and the bankers attending represent far more than the banking community. They represent the capital invested in the banking business, and more than that, the depositors who are the backbone of the banking system. The conference is going to be animated by no obstructionist and reactionary purpose. Its spirit will be both hopeful and helpful. Forecasts of the outcome of the conference will be easily mistaken if hearty approval is not lent to the excellencies of the Administration banking bill, while at the same time constructive recommendations are submitted which can make the bill better.

Not an Indignation Meeting. This conference is not an indignation meeting. There is nothing preliminary to the conference which the bankers are more anxious to have the country appreciate than that fact. Efforts to make it appear that the bankers were called together to formulate opposition to banking legislation in general and the Administration bill in particular have been noted here and there in the last two weeks since the conference was mooted. The fact of these insinuations was that the bankers were guided by anger because of the treatment they had received while the Administration bill was being put on the legislative ways.

There is no discoverable basis for this

CONSTRUCTIVE

Ours is not only a constructive business, it is also a constructive business, in the broadest economic sense. We not only build buildings, but we are important factors in insuring their prosperity after they are completed, by applying to their construction the most economical methods that experience can show or ingenuity devise.

THOMPSON-STARRETT COMPANY
Building Construction

aspiration of the bankers' motives. Nor did the conference called in behalf of Eastern finance, which has been the special subject of political suspicion. This fact will undoubtedly be developed in the course of the convention when the bankers will declare their attitude toward the movement for a new currency bill. The bankers want it equally known that they are not meeting merely to protest against the aim of the Administration bill to establish a control of the country's credit market, which does not now exist, by establishing a control of the banking system, which is just as non-existent, and concentrating that control in political hands.

There is to be no secrecy about the conference. When it is concluded there probably will have been produced a lucid memorial, addressed to the President and Congress, which will command the attention of the country and receive a great subscription of approval.

Only in a general way it is possible to condense from conversations with members of the conference the drift which the deliberations of the bankers will probably show.

Turning directly to the Administration banking bill the conference is likely to accept as thoroughly sound the idea of setting up regional banks to hold the ultimate banking reserves of the country. The number of regional banks is not likely to be indorsed. The regional scheme for mobilizing reserves is regarded as practicable. The idea is, however, that the Federal reserve bank should be a separate capitalized institution of not less than \$5,000,000, to be subscribed by the national banks. A Federal reserve bank may open branches. Supervising these branches is a Federal reserve board non-capitalized.

The Aldrich bill plans the establishment of the National Reserve Association of America, a great central institution, with a capital of \$20,000,000, to which the banks of the country are invited to subscribe as stockholders. Branches of this institution will be established in at least fifteen districts. Furthermore there is a provision for the grouping of banks in the different districts into local associations, there being no less than one bank in each district with a capital of not less than \$5,000,000.

The Wilson bill makes membership of all the national banks compulsory, leaving it optional with other banks to join. The Aldrich bill leaves membership optional with all banks and trust companies. In the Wilson bill the banks are to subscribe to the Federal reserve banks to the extent of 20 per cent. of their own capital. In the Aldrich bill the banks are to subscribe to the National Reserve Association to the extent of 20 per cent. of their capital. In both instances half is to be paid in and half in call. In neither case can the stock be hypothecated.

The charter of the Federal reserve banks is for twenty years. That of the National Reserve Association is for fifty years.

Wilson Reserve Board. The Wilson bill provides that the board of directors of the Federal reserve banks shall consist of twelve members, three to be representatives of stockholding banks, three to be general public interests of the district and three designated by the Federal reserve board, one of whom is to be the chairman and also the "Federal reserve agent" of the district.

The Federal reserve board shall consist of seven members, three of whom are chosen by the President, Secretary of Agriculture and Comptroller of the Currency, and four members chosen by the President, and with the consent of the Senate. Of those appointed by the President, one shall be a banker, one a farmer, one a laborer, and one a person experienced in banking.

Boards in Aldrich Bill. On the other hand in the Aldrich bill each local association is to have a board, the number of which would be determined by its by-laws. The members of the board would be elected by members, each bank to have one vote; two-fifths to be elected by ballot, each bank to vote according to its shares in the national reserve association.

Furthermore each branch of the national reserve association would have a board of at least twelve directors. One-half to be elected by voting representatives from each local association in the district, one-third to be elected by the same representatives according to stock ownership in national reserve association, all the banks comprising the local association, and the remaining one-sixth to be elected by directors so elected, and representing the commercial interests of the district.

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To Be Named by President. The governor of the national reserve association is to be selected by the President from a list of three names submitted by the board, to hold office for ten years, subject to removal for cause by a two-thirds vote of the board. Directors to elect an executive committee of nine. Each branch to have a manager and a deputy manager appointed from a list of three names submitted by the directors of the branch, and subject to removal at any time by the governor of the national reserve association.

While the Wilson bill would require every national bank and every member bank to establish with a Federal reserve bank of its district a credit balance equal to 5 per cent. of total demand liabilities, and while the Federal reserve banks would have all the moneys in the general fund of the United States Treasury as deposits, the Aldrich bill calls for no arbitrary deposits by the member banks in the national reserve association.

Reserves Required. The reserves required by the Wilson bill have been fairly well exploited. The Aldrich bill, on the other hand, provides that all member banks shall maintain on demand deposits the same percentage of reserve as is now required by the national banking law. On time deposits not payable within 30 days no reserve is required, but within 30 days of payment the same reserve must be kept as in the case of demand deposits. All demand liabilities including deposits and circulating notes of the national reserve association are to be covered to the extent of 50 per cent. by the reserve of gold or other lawful money. The bill imposes a special tax upon a deficiency of reserve.

The Wilson bill provides for an issue of Federal reserve notes, amount not specified, to be issued at the discretion of the Federal reserve board for the purpose of making advances to Federal reserve banks and for no other purposes. These notes are obligations of the United States. Whenever a Federal reserve bank shall pay out these notes, it shall segregate in its own vaults and carry in its own accounts a reserve of 33 1/3 per cent. for their redemption.

Note Tax Provided First. The Aldrich bill provides first of all for the taking over of the bond secured circulation of the national banks. Banks might maintain existing issues, but further issues or renewals were forbidden. The National Reserve Association offered for a period of one year to purchase the 2 per cent. bonds securing circulation at par and accrued interest and to take Federal reserve notes in exchange for the notes, issuing therefor its own notes when the same are presented for redemption.

The National Reserve Association may issue additional notes from time to time to meet the needs of the country, but whenever the total amount of notes issued by it (including the outstanding national bank notes) shall exceed \$900,000,000 the notes in excess of that amount which are not Federal reserve notes shall be subject to a tax of 1 1/2 per cent. per annum, and when notes exceed 1,200,000,000 the tax is 5 per cent. on the excess not so covered.

WILSON AND ALDRICH MEASURES COMPARED

Wall Street Observer Presents Interesting View of Two Currency Bills.

DIFFERENCE IN CONTROL

One a Legislator's Plan, While Other Is Based Upon Bankers' Experience.

A comparison between the so-called Aldrich and Wilson plans for the reform of the currency has been made by the *Wall Street Journal*. It is of unusual interest, because while the Aldrich plan apparently has been tossed into the wastebasket it still is of importance as being a measure which bankers favored and which was drawn up largely by bankers. Furthermore the comparison shows that despite the difference in important details the Aldrich plan was the basis of the bill that President Wilson would enact into law.

The chief difference, and one that is regarded by bankers as vital, is in the control of the two proposed systems. The Aldrich plan provides for a great central institution owned and controlled in large part by the banks, diffusing its influence throughout the country by means of branches. The Wilson bill would give exclusive control over the new system to the Federal government, that is, it would have a Federal reserve board directly in the Government's power.

The Central Institution. In regard to this feature it should be noted that the Wilson bill proposes to have at least twelve Federal reserve banks distributed throughout the country, each Federal reserve bank to be a separately capitalized institution of not less than \$5,000,000, to be subscribed by the national banks. A Federal reserve bank may open branches. Supervising these branches is a Federal reserve board non-capitalized.

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RADICAL ATTACKS ON CURRENCY CHECKED

Caucus Delays Action on Amendment Against Interlocking Directorate.

INSURGENTS DWINDLING

Many Democrats Who Have Opposed Bill Now Line Up for Administration.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—An amendment to the banking and currency bill, designed to prohibit any person from serving as a director in more than one financial institution and proposed by Representative Neely of Kansas, who was a member of the "money trust" committee, stirred up a lively debate in the caucus of the House Democrats to-day.

The discussion was brought to an end temporarily by a motion for adjournment made by Representative Glass of Virginia, who is handling the currency bill in caucus. Mr. Neely and his fellow insurgents sought to prevent an adjournment for the day, but were defeated. The Glass motion prevailed by a vote of 97 to 43. Here is the amendment that caused all the trouble:

"No officer or director of a national bank, State bank, banking association or trust company admitted to membership in a regional reserve bank under the provisions of this act shall be an officer or director of any bank or financial corporation or institution admitted hereunder. No person shall be an officer or director of any bank admitted hereunder who is a private banker or is a member of a firm or partnership of bankers engaged in the business of receiving deposits."

Reasons for the Objections.

The principle of the Neely amendment was generally favored by those who spoke on it, but objection was made on the ground that if adopted it would practically prevent any country member from joining the regional reserve associations. It was pointed out that as business is now conducted interlocking directorates are common among banks and trust companies and that in many cases the dual relationship would be continued at the expense of relinquishment of national bank charters.

The argument was made further that if a prohibition against interlocking directorates was read into the law one business alone should not be attacked. According to leaders, strong sentiment developed for the passage of a law prohibiting interlocking directorates in banks, railroads, industrial corporations and such other corporations as may be regulated by Congress through the interstate commerce clause of the Constitution. Prominent leaders say that as a result of the agitation against interlocking directorates an effort to legislate on the subject undoubtedly will be made at the December session of Congress.

The indications are that the Neely amendment will be defeated. Its supporters fell far short of the necessary number of votes to-day to keep the caucus in session. It is well known that the Administration is opposed to the amendment on the ground that the question is one that should be treated independently. Consideration of the amendment will be resumed to-morrow.

Disposition of the Caucus.

The disposition of the caucus to stand by the Administration bill was shown on a number of votes during the day. For example, Representative Helm of Kentucky offered an amendment making it optional instead of obligatory on the part of national banks as provided in the bill to become stockholders in the reserve banks, or more properly speaking, to become a part of the new system of banks. This amendment was defeated by a substantial vote. So also was an amendment offered by Representative Ruben of Missouri reducing from 20 to 12 per cent. the amount required to be subscribed by a

member bank in the stock of a reserve bank. The session disclosed that as a result of the speech made yesterday by Chairman Glass and the influence exerted by House leaders and the Administration many Democrats who are so inclined will not go along with the insurgents in opposition to the Administration bill. They have been brought into line by pleas for party harmony and regularly made by Speaker Clark and other leaders.

The thought has been impressed upon members that only by the enactment of a modern banking law coincident with action on the tariff can the party avoid the danger of the avoidance of a disturbance in business that might prove disastrous to the Democrats next year and in the national election of 1916. This argument has had great weight even with members who have been active in their opposition to the Administration bill.

MULHALL AGAIN FAILS TO SUSTAIN CHARGES
Unable to Prove Alleged Loans to McDermott or Boosting of Vreeland.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Col. Martin M. Mulhall, refreshed by his week of rest, appeared before the House lobby investigating committee to-day and resumed his story of the activities of the National Association of Manufacturers. The Colonel's memory apparently has not been improved much as his health.

The purpose of the examination was to elicit from the witness confirmation of the testimony of Isaac H. McMichael as to the conversion of Representative James T. McDermott from an ardent supporter of organized labor to an alleged tool of the lobby. Mulhall was "a bit uncertain on that point." He had given "an opinion" from McDermott's original "Caucus" Louis Fernandez and a person named Hims.

"Was Hims' his first name or his surname, or any name?" asked Representative Cline of Indiana.

"He was a female, sir," replied Mulhall to the great size of the audience. "I do not know what her real name was."

Mulhall reiterated his previous stories of the continued lending of money to McDermott—sums which he testified were never repaid or even acknowledged—but he failed utterly to bring out a single instance of McDermott having received from him any funds not of a purely personal character. Mr. Willis read a statement from Mulhall's original exposure in which he had testified that Representative Bannan of Ohio and Vreeland of New York had been put on the Judiciary Committee at the behest of the S. A. M. and two other members thrown off.

"That happened in 1907," questioned Mr. Willis.

"Yes, sir," replied Mulhall.

"You're sure of it?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then I invite your attention to the fact that, according to the Congressional Directory, Mr. Bannan had been a member of the Judiciary Committee since 1906, two years and more before," said Mr. Willis, "and also to the list of members of the Committee on Judiciary, which shows that Mr. Vreeland never was even a member of the Judiciary Committee."

Mulhall exploded and told Mr. Willis he thought it was unfair to try to trip him in that manner at the suggestion of his enemies.

FACE BROKE OUT WITH RED PIMPLES

Like Bunches. Itched Badly. Would Fester and Be Sore. Used Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment. Face As if Never Had Pimples.

Stony Creek, N. Y.—"In the first place my face had blackheads on it and I would squeeze them out but they would come back again and after a while my face broke out with little red pimples. They looked like little red bunches all over my face. Then I would dig and scratch them because they itched so badly and after I scratched the cap off they would fester and be sore. Then I would squeeze them and they would come over and spread. They would make my face look horrid, so that I was ashamed to go out much. I didn't know what to do for it. "I would steam my face good every day, but that didn't help it. I saw the advertisement of Cuticura Soap and Ointment in the paper, so I sent and got a sample of each. I used them up and then bought one cake of Cuticura Soap and some Cuticura Ointment, and after two weeks my face was just as if I never had pimples on it at all." (Signed) David H. Putnam, Mar. 19, 1913.

Although the Cuticura Soap and Ointment are most successful in the treatment of affections of the skin, scalp, hair and hands, they are also most valuable for everyday use in the toilet, bath and nursery because they promote and maintain the health of the skin and hair from infancy to age. Sold everywhere. Liberal sample of each mailed free, with 25-c. Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston."

Persons who share and champion with Cuticura Soap will find it best for skin and scalp.

MISSING STUDENT RETURNS.
Found Himself in Colfax, Cal., With Memory Gone.

Caleb C. Hughes, Jr., the student at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, who disappeared on April 15, returned to his home, 720 East 220th street, on Wednesday night. He was unable to account for himself since he disappeared.

Detectives could find no trace of him, but on July 17 Miss Letty Gibbs, a Philadelphia school teacher, received a letter from him, mailed at Colfax, Cal.

"I found your picture and address in the back of my watch," the letter said, "and I am writing in the hope that you may know something about me. I seem to have lost my memory. Miss Gibbs sent word to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, and they wrote to the son urging him to come home."

The son said that he vaguely remembered being in all in Denver, and that he remembered working for a mining company in Colfax. He didn't remember his name or any incidents of his past.

The family physician said the boy might regain his memory if he was sent back to Philadelphia among the old scenes and faces. He went back yesterday morning.

ASKS VALUE OF GOODS IN BOND.

Senate for Second Time Calls on McAdoo for Information.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—On the motion of Senator Sutherland of Utah, the Senate for the second time within a few weeks passed a resolution to-day calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a report on the value of imported goods held in bonded warehouses to be entered under the lower rates when the pending tariff bill becomes a law.

The Senator stated that Secretary McAdoo had made no response to the first resolution and that he wanted to emphasize the demand of the Senate for the information.